

# COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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From the sinecure-list, printed by order of the House of Commons, in 1808, that being the last account that I have seen: "CLERK OF THE HANAPER; SISTERS of the Earl of Northington, 2,070*l.* a year." "CUSTOS BREVIUM in the Court of Common Pleas; Hon. LOUISA Browning, Sir M. Eden, LADY B. Mostyn, and Jos. Hanken, 929*l.* a year." "Clerk of the Court of Chancery in Scotland; CHILDREN of Earl Rosslyn, 925*l.* a year."

TO

MR. HAYWOOD,  
Now, or late, of Sheffield.

Wolverhampton, 11th May, 1830.

DEAR SIR,

IF this be too late to overtake you in England, it will catch you at New York, and will bear to you my best wishes for the long continuance of your *health*: I need wish you nothing more; for you will now keep and quietly enjoy the fruits of your skill, industry and care; you will now be able to sleep without fear of being roused by the tax-gatherer; you will never again see the sign of your degradation stamped on the corner of a newspaper. Look at the motto! When any one, if one so ignorant is to be found in America, ask you why you fled from your native land, show him the motto, tell him of the *dead-weight*, show him the place and pension and sinecure list; tell him that GOULBOURN, who said that there would be more five pounders in consequence of the abolition of the ones, has a *greater salary* than the President of the United States! Tell him *that*; and tell him, that by going to America, you get out of paying part of this salary. Tell him *that*.

Do go up into Long Island, and see the *black walnut-tree*, under which I sat when I was writing the "letter to TIERNEY," that memorable warning given to the fools, in 1818. Do, pray go and see it, and repeat the laugh that I had at them, while I was under that tree. They tell me (and, indeed, I know the fact), that there is a new house built on the spot where that one stood, which was burnt down, while in my occupation. On the *north-side* of that house, not directly behind it, but a few feet to the *west*, and at about forty feet to the north of a line drawn in continuation of the back wall of the house, stands that famous tree, about fifty or sixty feet high, and with lower branches bending over, with their extreme leaves almost reaching the ground. It will be *nice and warm* by the time that you will get there; and I am sure that the owner of the house will give you a chair and a cup of milk: so do, pray go, and ask the people about there, whether they do not remember "one William *Cawbut*." They will tell you that I twisted their long, grave, and sensible faces into a laugh oftener than any man ever did before or since.

But while you are under the tree, do not forget to reflect a little on *your own conduct*! Ask yourself whether it be *wise* in you to go away, and give up for ever, mind, *for ever*! all your share of the "envy of surrounding nations and admiration of the world": whether it be wise in you to abandon your portion of the honour of paying *Burke's pension* still, though Burke has been dead thirty years: whether it be wise to forego the honour and delight of helping to pay the sinecures of the Grenvilles, the Wellesleys, the Bathursts, the Fitzroys, and the rest of the most noble and right honourable men, women and children, in number endless, and with names as pretty as pretty can be. To be sure, you will have land and house and bread and meat and malt and beer and spirits and horses and dogs *untaxed*; but then,

will you, I want to know, have the honour to help to pay for strawberries at a guinea an ounce, for grapes at a guinea a pound, for cherries at five guineas a pound, and for green pease at a guinea a half-pint, all to be eaten by the nicest and prettiest creatures in the world? No; of this honour you will be shorn for ever! You may, indeed, and you certainly will, gobble down buttered beef-steaks for breakfast, and you will see the labourers do the same: gobble away, sensual creature, while we enjoy the "*antallactul*" feast; while we, with bodies purified by the absence of all gross aliment, and with minds sublimated to almost a celestial state, enjoy the ecstatic delight of reflecting, that in consequence of our labours, our cares, our self-denial, our abstinence and half-starvation, thousands of beautiful earthly angels are rolling about in carriages, surpassing the fabled chariots of the sun: and that palaces are raised up, the carve-work to the gate-way of one of which is to cost *thirty-four thousand pounds*, a sum equal to the wages, for a year of 1,700 labourers, and equal to what is to keep them and their families, consisting of 8,500 persons, at five to a family! Gobble down unenvied your buttered beef-steaks, while we feed our mind with reflections like these:

"Forward, on wings of *ether*, springs the mind  
"That leaves the load of *yesterday* behind."

But we, happily, stand in no need of this at once medical and poetical precept for emptying the belly. We never *take in the load*; our minds are always on "*wings of ether*": and it is from this sublime state that you have fled, in order to get into the regions of carnal gratification!

I know well what you will be at: you will be writing over, "here we can grow our own hops, paint our own floor-cloth, open new windows, make our own malt, and, above all, make our own *soap* and *candles*, without being above half-killed for it." Well, and what then? If our faces and hands be grimy, if our table-cloths and dishes be unwashed; it is, as the Apostle says,

not that which goeth into, but that which cometh out of, the mouth, that *defileth* the man; aye, and while a large part of us are confined to potatoes, eaten from a dirty platter, we are allowed to indulge to its fill, our "*antallactul*" appetite, having the ample table spread before us *gratis*, loaded with Bibles and Testaments, with psalters and primers as minor dishes, with an infinite variety of garnish and sweetmeats, in the shape of *tracts*, so enticing, so enchanting, producing such chaunting and such harmony of sighs and groans, as totally to drown the vulgar and gross grumbling of the belly.

And *candles*; now, what is there in the liberty to turn your own suet into candles, without being *half-killed* for it? What is this to *boast* of? If we are compelled to creep into our nests in the dark, we have, the Parliament be lauded, all the means of obtaining an abundance of *inward light*. We may break our shins and noses, to be sure; but our souls are well guarded, while you, whose Government leave you to cram and stuff and guzzle and go to bed with lights about you, take no thought for that "*antallactul*" light, which alone is of any real value.

However, in spite of all these arguments, the *belly* seems to be fast getting the better of the "*antallact*"; for, emigrants are getting away, in all directions: from London, from the ports of Sussex, from Portsmouth, from Plymouth, from Falmouth, from Yarmouth, from Hull, from Glasgow, and, above all, from *Liverpool*. Through *this town* of Wolverhampton, the coaches go continually loaded with people of *property*, going to embark at *Liverpool*. This is a swinging blow at the borough-mongers! It is not the paupers that go; *they*, and the halt, the blind, the deaf, the insane, the aged, the widows, the helpless, the idle, the sluggards, the thieves, and the *tax-eaters* of all descriptions, *remain*; so that, if this could go on for three or four years, we should find ourselves a goodly company at last.

The question, then, is, *can* it go on for some years longer? I hope in God that *it will not*; but it certainly *can*; and,

one reason why it *can*, is, that there is America *always open* to receive those who are resolved, like you, to endure the THING no longer. There are the Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, to receive enterprising manufacturers; and many are going thither; but there is America to receive these, and to receive *the farmers* too; and that is the great mass. Then, there is America for men, for families, of independent fortune, not connected with tax-eaters. So that the *indignant spirit* will *evaporate* in this way; and it will, in the meanwhile, be kept *quiet*, by the *resource* that America always presents. You, for instance, were comparatively quiet, because you always saw a *remedy* before you. When you could endure no longer, you applied the remedy; and thus the boroughmongers are *rid of you and your annoyance!* The country is, to be sure, *rid* of your capital and your industry and skill; but there are a great deal of these left: the mass is too great to be dissipated *all at once*: and though it will soon begin to waste away, the country may, if peace should continue, be brought down into a very low state, *if the poor be kept from approaching real starvation*. That must be done, or the THING will be shaken most furiously!

Besides this resource for dissipating the indignant spirit; besides this source of the means of *quieting*; there is the entanglement occasioned by the immense mass of taxes; there are about six millions a year paid for the collection and management of the sixty millions of taxes: pretty nearly a million of the *rates*; indeed, much more than a million goes into the hands of the managers of the rates: then, the dead-weight swallows up six millions or more: the army and the navy about fifteen millions more. The church is another immense mass of property. It is impossible that the persons who are employed in the excise, the customs, the church, the army, the navy, the banking works, the dock-yards, the barracks, the public offices of all sorts; it is impossible that these, who are, in fact, the understrappers of the aristocracy, should not have rela-

tions and connexions amongst the people at large. I am speaking of the *working* part of the clergy, and of the other establishments. Still, their work is easy: there is always a provision of some sort made for them when they can work no longer. So that, a large part of the people who do not appear to have any connexion at all with the THING, are, in fact, thus indirectly connected with it. A farmer, a tradesman, a manufacturer, a man retired upon a little fortune: many of these have sons, or sons-in-law, or the relations of their married children; or they have brothers, or nephews, or some relation or other, connected with some one who gets a good living out of this thing. This is a great *quieter*, in the first place; and, if the connexion be close, it is, when the thoughts of emigration occur, a powerful pull-back. Many and many a family, who would now be in America safe from the graspings of the thing, will remain here to sink down into poverty from this cause. Suppose a man to entertain your or my sentiments about the matter; suppose him to have ten thousand pounds; suppose him to be perfectly convinced that he could live better in America than he does here, and save two-thirds of his income; suppose him to have three or four children, who must, if he remain here, be comparatively beggars; but suppose him to have a son in the army on half-pay, and suppose him to have a daughter married to a clerk in a public office; he and his family are tied here by those two ligatures, and the thing takes away his fortune; or, at least, it takes away his means of providing suitably for his other children.

Now, this prevails to an amazing extent. You very often meet with men of sense and of sound principles; you hear them lament the wretched state of the people; you hear them deplore the miseries occasioned by the taxes; but, when you bring them to the point, you find, at last, that they shudder at the thought of any change that will remove those taxes. You find them great in words, but to tremble at the thought of deeds. I have met with numerous in-



stances of the kind; and I always found, upon making strict inquiry, that the party always had some relation or other dependent on the thing. I was acquainted with one gentleman, to whom I was talking one day about the Norfolk Petition: I had known him for some time; a man of excellent principles and excellent understanding; and a staunch parliamentary reformer; but, to my utter astonishment, he did not approve of that part of the Norfolk Petition which related to the property commonly called *church-property*; for the nation to resume which would, he said, be unjust. I argued the matter with him in a manner that he was unable to answer; but he still remained unshaken in his objection. By the merest accident in the world, and at two hundred miles from his place of dwelling, I found that his wife had a brother who had *two livings in the church!* This gentleman, who has a family that imperiously calls upon him to flee from the thing, has since got a son poked into a public office; and he will remain here to pay to the THING that which would make fortunes for six children, who will now have no fortunes at all worth speaking of, and, perhaps, no fortunes at all. He is getting *four per cent.* for his money instead of the *six* which he would get in the State of New York, on better security; he is paying for rent, and for all the necessities of life, double what he would pay there; he is no great way from the bottom, instead of being nearly at the top of society; affection for his children makes him walk exposed to be covered by the splash of the carriages of those who draw away his fortune; and yet here he bides, bound by the miserable ties before-mentioned. Nay, you yourself, if you had had a brother or a brother-in-law, and especially a son, or a daughter's husband, in the army, in the taxing concern, or living out of the taxes in any way whatsoever; would have remained here, and have been quiet into the bargain.

The mass of property tied to the country in this way is very great. It is not *clear profit* to the THING; because the THING has to give part of

it back, in the shape of salary or pay, to those who cause property to remain in the country; but still it remains, and it clears the thing something. Those only who have no ties of this sort will remove, unless they be persons of extraordinary good sense, and are endued with spirit and firmness more than falls to the common lot of mankind. However, there are still a great many, to be sure, whose property is not held here by any such ties. There are the *women*, however; and they will be a heavy drag in most cases; and, therefore, though great masses of property will remove, and more and more every year, the country will sink down very low (providing that care be taken to feed the poor tolerably well), before any change of importance will be adopted. If the Government were to go back to the small-paper money, the thing would go off like a barrel of gunpowder; but, if it keeps steadily adhering to the present system, my real opinion is, that it may maintain itself until all rents have nearly ceased; and until the occupiers of the land shall be little other than mere bailiffs of the state. For, the poorer the middle class become, the less disposition they will have to bestir themselves. The smaller landowners will be, as they long have been, constantly endeavouring to get some little share in the taxes, directly or indirectly. Nothing, therefore, can make a change, of any efficient nature, until the middle class shall be, as they were at last in France, forced down into a complete community of feeling with the working class; and this will not be until almost the whole of them are nearly beggars. When this state of things shall arrive, and a war, or some other accidental circumstance, shall produce imminent danger to the state, those who are now all-powerful will endeavour to prevent the danger by giving way; but the thing that I fear is, that they will give way when it is too late; when that which the people will receive will be ascribed to their fears and not to their justice; and then the consequences need not be pointed out by me. You will, I am sure, never cease to love that

which is good belonging to your country; but still you will have to congratulate yourself on your prudent escape.

HUSKISSON has lately made a speech, and published it in a pamphlet, the childishness of which you will find pretty well exposed in the last Register. He proposes an income-tax, to reach *absentees* and other persons who are not engaged in what he calls productive industry. You have taught him how easy it is to take income out of his reach. The mortgagees would soon give him a similar lesson; and, in short, his income-tax would answer no other earthly purpose than that of taking a certain sum from the interest of the debt. If he were to take off the half of that interest, the amount would be about fifteen millions a year, still leaving forty-five millions; that is, three times as much as this nation can bear if the taxes be paid in gold.

HUSKISSON is, after all, a poor bubble-headed thing, like PARNELL, and the rest of these dabblers. A gentleman told me at Birmingham yesterday, that he had sent to London for PARNELL'S Pamphlet, and that he could make *neither top nor tail of it*. He need not have told me that; for I had seen PARNELL'S writings. What these schemers are always at, is, endeavouring to reduce the expenses by a shuffling of the paper; like the sinking-fund project, which was to effect a reduction of the Debt by taking money out of one pocket and putting it into the other, while the taxes continued to augment all the time and the Debt to increase. It is on your side of the water where they understand how to pay off national debts. The American Government have made use of this sixteen years of peace to pay off their debt; they have been increasing their navy all the while; and now, with a fine navy, ready built and equipped, and a full treasury, they are prepared for war; or, rather, they have placed themselves in a situation which forbids any nation to do that which would give them just cause of war. If they had had a dead-weight; if they had had to keep three generals for every regiment, and two admirals for every

ship of the line; if they had had parsons to give half-pay to as military and naval officers; if they had had a dead-weight in Germany as well as in America; in short, if their peace had been as expensive as their war, the United States would have been a country to flee from instead of being a place of refuge.

That it may be a country in which you will lead a long and happy life is the ardent prayer of

Your much obliged,

and most obedient servant,

WM. COBBETT.

### THE SEAT IN PARLIAMENT.

I COPY the following from *The Manchester and Salford Advertiser*, of the 24th of April. I ought to be, and I am, very proud of commendation, bestowed by talent so great as that which is here displayed.

We last week published, at considerable length, the address of Mr. COBBETT to the public, on the subject of raising, by subscription, a sum of money for the purpose of securing his services as a member of the House of Commons. Our readers have seen, in that address, that Mr. COBBETT wishes that ten thousand pounds should be raised; and that, of this sum, six thousand pounds should be applied to the purchase of a freehold qualification, and the remainder to the object of securing him a seat in Parliament. After the people of miserable, beggared Ireland have been seen to place thirty thousand pounds in the hands of the Catholic Association; after the people of that poverty-stricken country have undertaken to subscribe fifty thousand pounds for the purpose of purchasing an estate for Mr. O'CONNELL, to reward the dubious services he has rendered them, by sacrificing the liberties of all to purchase exemption for a part from certain civil disabilities, it would be to suppose the people of England degenerated into the meanest

slaves that ever trembled under the lash of a tyrant, to imagine that they could feel one moment's hesitation in raising the inconsiderable sum of ten thousand pounds, for any purpose of real national utility. But if we are far from doing this injustice to England at large, far indeed are we from harbouring the thought that the people of Lancashire, distinguished, as they have been, for their enlightened knowledge of the real condition of their country, and the true sources of their own sufferings; for that fine discernment which taught them to appreciate the value of the institutions of their wise forefathers, through all the corruptions by which these institutions were perverted and abused; distinguished, as they have eminently been, for the matchless temper and unshaken firmness of their adherence to that constitution, in the outraged name of which they were insulted and oppressed: far indeed are we from imagining, that such a people will be backward in contributing to any measure that may tend to promote that cause for which they have not feared to encounter imprisonment, wounds, and death. Is, then, the object of seating Mr. COBBETT in Parliament, and securing his undivided attention to the duties of a member; is this an object which claims the attention and support of the English public? is it an object worth purchasing at the price of ten thousand pounds? Where is the man attached to the cause of reform; where is the man acquainted with its history, who will venture to answer, No? When Mr. COBBETT, in 1816, fled from the warrant of the secretary of state; fled from the dungeons that were opened to receive him, because, and only because, he had roused the people from lethargy; because he had poured into their minds the light of his own, and pointed their awakened energies to the recovery of their, rights; because he had led away the minds of the manufacturing classes from the miserable conflicts about wages, into which they have since too much relapsed, and taught them that they had one common interest, one only means of safety, in the reform of the Government and the

diminution of the expenditure of the country: when thus, and for this cause, he fled from the infliction of that death, to which CASTLEREAGH stalked over the ruins of our subverted liberties; even then, when the name of radical was to the ears of our insolent oppressors and their deluded supporters, a reproach as expressive of infamy as the name of felon or murderer; even then *The Times* newspaper did Mr. COBBETT the justice to call him the *Corypheus*, that is to say, *the leader of the band of the reformers*. On a more recent occasion, while he was on his tour in the North, a ministerial paper in Liverpool called him the *Apostle of Reform*. Never was term of honour more worthily applied; and shall we, shall the reformers of England, from indifference to the cause, or from low envy, deny to the veteran champion of that cause the honour which his very enemies do not withhold from him? He was the *Corypheus*, the *leader of the band of reformers*, when to be a reformer was to encounter the full wrath of power, at once unprincipled and exasperated. "In season and out of season," in prison and in exile, he has been the preacher, the martyr of that cause; and when it has at last attained, in public opinion, the triumph which must eventually wait on truth, shall we deny him the title of its apostle, or shall we allow the latest, the last of his disciples, to usurp the place which he has vindicated for himself, by six-and-twenty years of acting and suffering, by his superior wisdom, his unequalled industry, his untiring zeal?

There are those who doubt, or affect to doubt, of his capability of effecting any thing in the House of Commons. Need we remind such sceptics of the labours of his prison, of "Paper against Gold," which, from the depths of his dungeon, sent into the vitals of triumphant corruption a shaft which still rankles, and will rankle there, till *her* destruction and the deliverance of England shall be accomplished? Need we remind them of the still more powerful effects of the two-penny *Register*? Up to the middle of the year 1816, the *Register* was published in the form of a



shilling pamphlet; and though its credit was very high, it was read by comparatively few, and not at all by the people. In that year, as in the present, the people were suffering under the tremendous operation of reducing the circulating medium, with undiminished burdens. The process, however, was more sudden and violent; the ruin of property was greater; and, instead of all having reduced wages, vast numbers were thrown wholly out of employment. The people, ignorant of the true cause of their distress, wreaked their vengeance on the objects nearest them: they broke machinery; they attacked the shops of bakers and butchers; and the country was horrified alternately by lawless violence and dreadful executions. It was then that Mr. COBBETT came forth to still the storm; it was then that in the thirty-first volume of his *Register* he published the first of that series of cheap numbers, which poured a flood of light on public opinion; which operated upon the waves of popular commotion as poured-out oil upon those of the ocean; which gave a uniformity and consistency to the public mind; which taught the people, abstaining from petty violence, to bend their attention towards, to rest their hopes upon, the accomplishment of permanent and universal good; and exhibited a spectacle, than which one more sublime and affecting is hardly to be found in the history of nations; a great and powerful kingdom urged by the folly of its rulers to the very brink of ruin, and saved from convulsion by the high and calm hopes infused into the humblest of her suffering people, by the communicated wisdom of a man till then but little known to them, and in rank almost as humble as themselves!

Twenty-seven numbers of that work had not issued from the press when the borough-owners were obliged to declare, by the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus Act*, by the bill for entrusting the Ministers with the power of arbitrary imprisonment, that their usurped power and civil liberty could no longer exist together; they were thus obliged to tear away all disguise, to expose their ty-

ranny in its true colours to the civilised world; and to inflict upon it wounds from which it will never recover. This Mr. COBBETT effected in despite of the opposition of the great portion of the press; in despite of the powers of the magistrates throughout the country, and the violent suppression of his paper by many of them; this he effected under a law of libel which pronounced truth to be a crime. This he effected before time had given that sanction and authority to his opinions, which it has since given. And why should he do less now, when every circumstance would be in his favour; with the privilege of Parliament to shelter truth from the talons of the Attorney-General; with the whole press, however reluctant, compelled into his service, and standing face to face with those who have hitherto assailed us all, unpunished and unreprieved?

There are those who will pretend that Mr. COBBETT is likely to desert the people in Parliament; that he will make a seat the means of lifting himself into power, and forget his duty. Why is he not now rolling in wealth? Why is he not now in power? What was there that should make CANNING or HUSKISSON outstrip him in the race which they began together! What was there to prevent him from sharing those titles which have been showered so liberally on men like BEXLEY and BLOMFIELD [he might have added CHARLES LONG, now FARNINGHAM]? What but his love of independence? What but his contempt of the "gains of oppression"!

Let us follow him into his exile from a country which it was his fault to love too well, and what a picture do we behold! We see him stripped of his fortune, banished from his home, separated from his family, pursued even by the pretended friends of the people, with every calumny and injury that envy, that hatred, that cowardice could heap upon him; but not for one moment can these accumulated wrongs interrupt the current of his affections for his country. He flies, not to the protection of European despotism, not even to join the

sons of freedom in America in one thought hostile to the interests of England; he addresses himself to the bare earth, to the general mother; and rewards the country which afforded him a refuge, by teaching her sons how to draw new treasures from her fruitful bosom, to improve the culture of their native products, to enrich their gardens with the vine, their fields with the turnip and the hawthorn. He watches meanwhile over the interests of the country that had driven him from her side; he teaches the people to respect the law, and despise its insolent violators; he cheers them with the animating hope of freedom yet to be restored; and how does he at last return? To diffuse comfort through the cottage of the labourer by the fruit of his gathered experience; to restore the beautiful and useful trade in plait and straw; to give new value and beauty to our forest timber, new riches to our gardens; with equal industry, benevolence, and sagacity, scattering, wherever he moves, new benefits on mankind. Admirable man! His conduct in an age in which patriotism has ceased to be acknowledged as a virtue, sends us back to the records of glorious antiquity for standards whereby to measure the greatness of his mind; sends us in vain to seek for examples of a patriotism more pure, more disinterested, more devoted. Such is the man whom the reformers of England are called upon to adopt as their representative: and why should we doubt that he will be what he has been? If gold could purchase him, he had been purchased long ago; and as to ambition, Mr. COBBETT is already in possession of a fame which will last while there shall be a record of the history of England; a fame which can only be enhanced by the opportunity of conducting his country to that safety to which he has so long and so faithfully pointed the way. His own reputation is identified with the interests of his country, and he must desert the one in order to betray the other.

For the county of SUFFOLK, money will be received by James Gudgeon, Esq., solicitor, Stowmarket.

For the county of NORFOLK, by Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart.

For the county of LINCOLN, by William Bedford, Esq. of Lincoln.

For the county of HEREFORD, by William Palmer, Esq. of Bollitree Castle, near Ross.

For the county of LANCASTER, by Richard Potter, Esq., of Manchester; and Mr. Thomas Smith, Liverpool.

For the EAST RIDING of YORKSHIRE, by Mr. Noble, bookseller, Hull.

For the WEST RIDING of YORKSHIRE, by John Forster, Esq., of Leeds.

For the county of LEICESTER, Mr. Warburton, of Leicester.

For the county of WARWICK, Mr. William Martin, of New-street, Birmingham.

For the county of STAFFORD, Mr. William Clark, of Wolverhampton, (*who subscribes twenty pounds himself.*)

For the county of SURREY, Mr. Chas. Trimmer, Churchill, Hazelmere.

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## MIDLAND TOUR.

*Shrewsbury, 13th May, 1830.*

I ARRIVED here from Wolverhampton this morning, having been at Dudley and Birmingham some days ago. I have no time to write any thing further, than to say, that I shall be at Worcester on the 15th; and shall go from thence into Herefordshire, thence to Monmouth, and thence into Gloucestershire. To name the *precise days* is out of my power.

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## POSTSCRIPT

TO THE

## EMIGRANT'S GUIDE.

*Wolverhampton, 5th May, 1830.*

AFTER I had published the EMIGRANT'S GUIDE, in the month of August last, I was frequently applied to, in person, by *men of property*, for information



with regard to *prices* and *rent* of houses, farms, &c. in *Long Island*; and I was very often asked to give an *exact description* of pieces of property that I *myself* had a *personal knowledge of*. It was difficult to do this; it took up a great deal of my time; and, besides, though I knew the several farms and places very well, and could describe them accurately and minutely, I could not state the value of them, except by *guess*; because I had never *asked* what was the value; and, if I had, I had made no memorandum on the subject.

Therefore, I wrote, in October last, a letter to Mr. JOHN TREDWELL, of Salisbury Place, in Long Island, requesting him to give me answers to *thirteen questions*, which I numbered from 1 to 13, keeping a copy of them, and also the *numbers*, and requesting him to put his answers against the numbers; I knowing him to be a man of perfect knowledge of the subject, and a man on whose judgment and word I could safely place reliance. The questions were as follows, as contained in his letter to me, dated the 13th of January last, and which letter found me at Cambridge, on the 28th of March:—

No.

1. What is the yearly rent of a house in New York, not for *business* of any sort, but for *residence*, for a middling-sized genteel family, in a clean and healthy street?
2. What is the legal interest of money lent on mortgage of land?
3. Are such mortgages easy to be got?
4. What is the *price*, bought out and out, of a country-house and farm like yours, at 20, 30, 40, or 50 miles from New York, and in Long Island?
5. What is the price of a country-house, as large as yours, with out-buildings, a garden, orchard, and a bit of ground for cows and horses to run in, supposing the whole to be fifteen acres; and suppose the property to be *within 20 miles of New York*, and on Long Island?
6. What are the number of acres of A's farm; and what is that farm *worth*?
7. How many acres is B's farm; and what is that farm *worth*?
8. What is the yearly rent of a good-sized, genteel house, orchard and garden, and bit of ground, at *Flatbush, Flushing, or Jamaica*?
9. What is the yearly rent of such a place at *Jericho*?
10. What is the number of acres of C's farm, and what is that farm *worth*, house and all? Not what he would *ask* for it; but what *such a place is worth*, at *that distance* from New York?
11. What is the worth of D's *tavern*, with the land belonging to it?
12. What is *your place* worth, and how many acres have you?
13. What are the pleasant places to live at, near New York; and what is the distance of each from New York?

#### ANSWERS:

1. From 300 to 400 dollars.
2. Seven per cent. per annum.
3. At 6 per cent. per annum.
4. From 12,000 to 15,000 dollars.
5. About 5,000 dollars.
6. 200 acres: 4,000 dollars: not well fenced.
7. 200 acres: in good fence, well cultivated: 8,000 dollars.
8. From 150 to 200 dollars a year.
9. From 100 to 150 dollars a year.
10. From 15,000 to 20,000 dollars: about 350 acres.
11. 4,000 dollars.
12. 13,000 dollars; 290 acres of land.
13. Flatbush, 4 miles; Jamaica, 12; Flushing, 11; and Hempstead, 22.

Now, it is necessary for me to give some explanations relative to each question and answer: but, first of all, it is necessary to observe, that the dollar is, at this time, at New York, equal to about *four shillings* of our money, as far as I can judge from the state of the *exchange* between the two countries. The *acre* of the United States is always the *statute acre of England*; that is, 160 square rods, or perches, each rod being  $16\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length, and the same in breadth. Long Island is about 130

miles long, and on an average about 8 miles wide. It is separated from the main land by a channel, which, *at the city of New York*, it requires *twenty minutes to cross*; and, during daylight, there is the most convenient means of crossing, for carriages, horses, and every thing, without ever waiting more than about five or ten minutes.

No. 1. Will need no explanation, other than that the yearly rent of such a house, in this finest (I think) of all the towns and cities in the world, is, in our money, from 60*l.* to 80*l.* a year, with, perhaps, not a twentieth part of the English *rates*, and no taxes such as we pay.

Nos. 2 and 3. The questions and answers speak fully for themselves.

No. 4. Will be explained under No. 12; for there are the particulars of the quantity of land.

No. 5. I beg the reader to look well at the question. The country-house is a good *gentleman's house*, with ample appurtenances. In short, read the question, and see what you can have, *freehold*, out and out, for a thousand pounds, with no accursed *stamp* on the conveyance, and no hellish tax on the house, the land, or the windows. The *orchard* finds cyder for the year. But this will be more fully explained under No. 12, which relates to *Mr. Tredwell's own place*, all the particulars of which I know so well.

No. 6. I put A's farm-house here, and not the name of the owner; because that would obviously be wrong. However, I know the farm well. The house is a good one, the land good in its nature, a good portion of woodland. A place, in short, where any industrious man might rear up and provide well for a large family; and the cost is, you see, 800*l.* our money, out and out. 200*l.* more would stock it well.

No. 7. I know this farm also. It has better and more ample buildings than No. 6. The fences will last many years without repair. The

land is, in quality, like No. 6; but in much better cultivation. The woodland is in sufficient proportion. A nicer farm no man need wish for. The value is 1,600*l.* our money; and 300*l.* more would stock it most amply.

No. 8. This suppose a house with *garden* and *orchard* and *run for a cow*; but not on the *scale* of No. 5. Quite sufficient, however, for easy and genteel life; and the cost is, you see, at most, 40*l.* a year, our money, with no *taxes*, or *rates*, worth speaking of. The *taxes and rates alone* on such a place, including tax on gig and dog and servant, will, in England, *amount to 50*l.* a year*.

No. 9. This takes you about 25 miles from New York to a very pretty and pleasant inland village; but, on account of the distance from the city, the place is 30*l.* a year, instead of 40*l.*

No. 10. This C's *farm* is the finest that I ever saw in my life. It has a large proportion of valuable woodland; I should think 18 acres of *orchard*; and these the very finest that I ever saw even in that country. The quantity of apples, pears and peaches, beyond all conception of those who have never been in America. I once saw one of the orchards (about 10 acres), the trees loaded with the finest apples, and the ground below bearing a fine crop of Indian corn. The house cannot have less than 12 or 14 rooms in it; and the out-buildings and yards all upon a large scale, and in perfect repair. Suppose it be 20,000 dollars, that is, 4,000*l.* of our money; and the land is *tithe-free*, and the whole so nearly being tax-free, as for taxes and rates to be hardly worth naming. This place is at about 20 miles distance from New York.

No. 11. Is a *Tavern*, about 15 miles from New York, on the turnpike road. A large house with all conveniences for a tavern. A garden; and I think from 15 to 20 acres of

land attached to it, part of the land being *woods*, which, observe, supplies all the *fuel*. 800*l.* buys this tavern out and out, land and all; and thus a man gets it for a sum that will not yield him, in interest, on mortgage, more than 32*l.* a year, in England.

No. 12. An explanation here will settle the whole matter; and here is the *owner*, speaking in his *own name*, and I know all about every part of the land and the premises. The *house* has four rooms on a floor, spacious kitchen and cellars beneath; it has a little farm-house and dairy attached; has a very neat garden, with a greenhouse in it; has a piazza on two sides of it; and is, in all respects, as neat, as substantial and convenient a house as I ever saw. Barn, stables, cow-houses, pig-pens, corn-cribs, yards, everything of the best description. An orchard of, I should think, seven acres, which is, observe, a pasture as well as an orchard. The land, which contains a due proportion of woods, is fenced in the best and most lasting manner, and is in the best state of cultivation; and, as you see, there are 290 acres of it, all lying in one spot, with the house nearly in the middle of it. Now, as to the *quality* of the land. In this part of Long Island, they put *soper's ashes* on the land, as we do *chalk* on the clays of Hampshire; and these, which cost about 3*l.* an acre of our money, last the land for 20 years. I think that Mr. TREDWELL's land was all ashed. But I can speak of that *which I occupied*, and which had never been ashed. Those who have read my *Year's Residence in America*, have read of the fine crops of *Swedish turnips* that I grew there; and my land was only at about 200 yards from that of Mr. Tredwell. Those were the largest and the finest that I ever saw. Cabbages and kidney-beans and pease, very fine, I had in the same land. Land of easy tillage; and, on Mr. Tredwell's farm,

I have seen as fine crops of corn, grain, and clover, as any man need wish to see. And this estate is worth 2,600*l.* our money. *Freehold, tithe-free*, nearly *tax and rate-free*. A good proportion of woods; as pleasant a spot, according to my fancy, as can be found in the world. The interest of this sum, on mortgage, in England, will not now bring more than 104*l.* a year. You cannot occupy such a place in England without paying 150*l.* a year in *rates and taxes*, and without *tithe* to the amount of 50*l.* a year at least. Very little can any family want beyond the produce of this estate: flour, beef, mutton, pork, veal, poultry, butter, milk, eggs, cheese, cyder, malt, apples, pears, peaches, apricots, dried fruits of all sorts, feathers, wool, fuel, food for horses, wood for implements and buildings. What more, but the clothing, and some wine and groceries, all except the clothing at less than half the English price; and the materials for clothing as cheap as in England, and, generally, cheaper, even if English; and if from China or India or France, at half the English price, or less.

I cannot conclude without quoting a most interesting part of Mr. TREDWELL's Letter: "As you had the breaking in of RICHARD HAINES, you will no doubt, be pleased to hear, that he has strictly followed your advice, 'to stick his legs under another man's table, and to stretch his body in another man's bed,' and that, though he has a second wife and a young John Bull, he has *saved more than two thousand dollars*, in the *nearly ten years* that he has been with me." That is more than 400*l.* of our money. Now, this was a young man, twenty years of age, who escaped from *pauper-pay* in Berkshire, in 1818; he got to New York in January, 1819; I hired him by the month till October, 1819; when I came away, or soon afterwards, he went to Mr. TREDWELL; he was a mere farm-labourer; he could neither write nor read; but he was a sober and



excellent young man ; and there he now is with the means of purchasing a farm of 100 acres, and all the buildings on it, at 100 miles from New York, and one of half the size at 20 miles from New York.

Now, the reader will perceive, that I have here spoken only of Long Island, and *near New York*. Farther off, farms and houses are cheaper ; but all these matters are fully stated and explained in the former part of the *Emigrant's Guide*, which contains information on every matter connected with *emigration*. But I cannot lay down my pen without once more most earnestly exhorting Englishmen not to have any thing to do with *Emigration Associations* ; not to go to back-woods ; but to settle in the well-inhabited parts ; to see what the people do ; to follow their customs ; to live as they live ; to mix with them ; and not to attempt to form any separate society or community.

Let every emigrant remember the sad fate of poor Birkbeck and his associates : they had the visionary scheme of forming an *English settlement*. They were to have a *society of their own*. They were to make a garden, a land of promise, in a wilderness. They were soon in confusion and ruin. The Americans know best how to *clear lands* : let them do it, and let Englishmen carry their money and skill to places already well inhabited, and congenial with their habits. I have always said, and I now repeat, that I grieve to think it my duty to put forth any thing having a tendency to cause men to quit England ; but when I see so many families that must be ruined and brought to beggary if they remain here, it is my duty to give the information that I now give.

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### SWEDISH TURNIP SEED.

*Barn-Elm Farm, 13th May, 1830.*

Mr. COBBETT has growing several acres of Swedish Turnips for seed. As this is a seed which does not suffer from keeping, any gentleman who would lay in a stock, or any seedsman, if he will call or send to see the crop growing,

will find a person ready to show it him. The turnips remained in the ground all the winter, and the bloom shows how very pure the sort is. No drawing or selecting has ever taken place, from first to last. The stalks are now at their full growth, and are about six feet high ; and the field is at this time in full bloom. This is perhaps the finest piece of seed of the kind growing in England.

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### ANOTHER SERMON.

THIS day, 15th of May, is published, at my shop, No. 183, Fleet-Street, London, and to be had of all booksellers in town and country, PRICE SIX-PENCE, a Sermon, entitled, "GOOD FRIDAY ; or, THE MURDER OF JESUS CHRIST BY THE JEWS" : addressed to *Christians* of all denominations.—My other Sermons, *twelve in number*, may be had in one volume, price 3s. 6d.

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#### *Just Published.*

MR. JAMES PAUL COBBETT'S ITALIAN GRAMMAR, entitled "*A Grammar of the Italian Language ; or, a Plain and Compendious Introduction to the Study of Italian.*" Price 6s.—Throughout this Grammar the Author has supposed himself to be addressing those who are altogether unacquainted with the subject ; he has, therefore, taken the greatest pains, both as to the proper arrangement of the several matters treated of, and that clearness of explanation that they require. At the same time, the work will be found useful to those who are more than mere beginners. It professes to be an "*Introduction*" only, and comes within a moderate compass ; but while the Author has set out by noticing points the most simple, he has, in the course of his task, studiously called the reader's attention to the greatest difficulties that occur in the study of Italian. Of the importance of these difficulties the Author may pretend to be a judge, since he has had to encounter them himself ; and the want of assistance which he has experienced in books called Grammars, has induced him to think that the results of his own study, as contained in the present work, may be of service to other people.

NEW EDITION.

**EMIGRANT'S GUIDE.**

Just published, at my shop, No. 183, Fleet Street, a New Edition of a volume under this title, with a **POSTSCRIPT**, price 2s. 6d. in boards, and consisting of *ten letters*, addressed to *English Tax-payers*, of which letters, the following are the contents:—

Letter I.—On the Question, Whether it be advisable to emigrate from England at this time?

Letter II.—On the Descriptions of Persons to whom Emigration would be most beneficial.

Letter III.—On the Parts of the United States to go to, preceded by Reasons for going to no other Country, and especially not to an English Colony.

Letter IV.—On the Preparations some time previous to Sailing.

Letter V.—Of the sort of Ship to go in, and of the Steps to be taken relative to the Passage, and the sort of Passage; also of the Stores, and other things, to be taken out with the Emigrant.

Letter VI.—Of the Precautions to be observed while on board of Ship, whether in Cabin or Steerage.

Letter VII.—Of the first Steps to be taken on Landing.

Letter VIII.—Of the way to proceed to get a Farm, or a Shop, to settle in Business, or to set yourself down as an Independent Gentleman.

Letter IX.—On the means of Educating Children, and of obtaining literary Knowledge.

Letter X.—Of such other Matters, a knowledge relating to which must be useful to every one going from England to the United States.

Postscript.—An account of the Prices of Houses and Land, recently obtained from America by Mr. Cobbett.

It grieves me very much to know it to be my duty to publish this book; but I cannot refrain from doing it, when I see the alarms and hear the cries of thousands of virtuous families that it may save from utter ruin.

—  
Just published, No. X. of

**COBBETT'S ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN**, and incidentally to **YOUNG WOMEN**. I have begun with the **YOUTH**, and shall go to the **YOUNG MAN** or the **BACHELOR**, talk the matter over with him as a **LOVER**; then consider him in the character of **HUSBAND**; then as **FATHER**; then as **CITIZEN** or **SUBJECT**.

**THE WOODLANDS:**

OR,

**A TREATISE**

On the preparing of ground for planting; on the planting; on the cultivating; on the pruning; and on the cutting down of Forest Trees and Underwoods;

**DESCRIBING**

The usual growth and size and the uses of each sort of tree, the seed of each, the season and manner of collecting the seed, the manner of preserving and of sowing it, and also the manner of managing the young plants until fit to plant out;

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**MARTENS'S LAW OF NATIONS.** This is the Book which was the foundation of all the knowledge that I have ever possessed relative to public law; and really I have never met with a politician, gentle or simple, who knew half so much of the matter as myself. I have wanted this book for my sons to read; and monopolizing has never been a favourite with me; if I have ever possessed useful knowledge of any sort, I have never been able to rest till I have communicated it to as many as I could. This Book was translated and published at the request of the American Secretary of State; the Book-seller, though he paid me only a quarter of a dollar (thirteen-pence halfpenny) for every page, had a Subscription from the President, Vice-President, and all the Members of the Two Houses of Congress, and from all the Governors and Lawyers in the country. This Work was almost my *coup d'essai*, in the authoring way; but upon looking it over at this distance of time, I see nothing to alter in any part of it. It is a thick octavo volume, with a great number of Notes; and it is, in fact, a book, with regard to public law, what a Grammar is with regard to language. The price is 17s., and the manner of its execution is, I think, such as to make it fit for the Library of any Gentleman.

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**THE ENGLISH GRAMMAR**; a New Edition. Of this Work, from first to last, Sixty Thousand Copies have been sold; and I verily believe that it has done more to produce real education, as far as correct writing and speaking go, than any book that ever was published. I have received from the year 1820, to the present time, continual thanks, by word of mouth and by letter, from young men, and even from old men, for this work, who have said, that, though many of them had been at the University, they never rightly understood Grammar till they studied this work. I have often given the Reviewers a lash for suffering this Work to pass them unreviewed; but I have recently discovered that the newly-published **EDINBURGH ENCYCLOPEDIA** says of it, that, "for all common purposes, it is the best Treatise we possess, and that it is entitled to supersede all the popular, and many of the scientific, productions on the subject of our language." The price of this book is 3s. in boards.

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I knew a gentleman, who, from reading the former edition which I published of TULL, has had land to a greater extent than the whole of my farm in wheat every year, without manure for several years past, and has had as good a crop the last year as in the first year, difference of seasons only excepted; and, if I recollect rightly, his crop has never fallen short of thirty-two bushels to the acre. The same may be done by any body on the same sort of land, if the principles of this book be attended to, and its precepts strictly obeyed.

**YEAR'S RESIDENCE IN AMERICA.** This Work, and the English Grammar, were the produce of Long Island, and they are particularly dear to me on that account. I wrote this book after I had been there a year, during which I kept an exact journal of the weather. I wrote it with a view of giving true information to all those who wished to be informed respecting that interesting country. I have given an account of its Agriculture, of the face of the Country, of the State of Society, the Manners of the People, and the Laws and Customs. The paper is fine on which this Book is printed, the print good, and the price moderate, viz. 5s.

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Knife. Case 2. Separation by Metallic Li-  
gature. Case 3. Division with the Knife  
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